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AUG 4 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR POLICY COORDINATION

SUBJECT: Italian Request to Operate against Albania from Greece.

1. [ ] reports that he has been informed by a contact within the Greek General Staff that, about 8 July 1949, an Italian Intelligence Officer arrived at Corfu with a vessel, and contacted the Chief of the Greek Army Advanced Intelligence Center, indicating that he was interested in establishing an operational base against Albania.

NOTE: The above Italian request is presumably the same one referred to in para. 2 of our memorandum dated 25 July 1949 (CIA Control Number 33129-a) and probably the one mentioned in the last sentence of para. 2 of our memorandum dated 1 August 1949 (CIA Control Number 33129-d); it is of further interest in view of Greek plans to use the island of Erikusa as an operational base as reported in paragraph 10 of our memorandum dated 29 July 1949 (CIA Control Number 33129-b).

2. The chief of the Advanced Information Center refused permission to set up this base on the ground that he had no authority to grant such permission and that no responsible official from Athens was available. The Italian then departed for Bari, Italy, saying that he would return within three weeks. On 30 July he returned to Greece, and on 1 August had a lengthy interview with a representative of the Greek General Staff, who was to report to General Nikolopoulos on 3 August.

3. In discussing the above with [ ] this General Staff contact again stated that General Nikolopoulos was greatly concerned over these and other Italian activities, and had inquired as to what support the Italians were receiving from the Americans.

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[ ]  
 Assistant Director  
 Special Operations

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